

House Armed Services Committee

DEMOCRATS

Ike Skelton, Ranking Member

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Contact:

Loren Dealy (HASC) 202-226-6339

Lara Battles (Skelton) 202-225-2876

Secret U.S. Prisons Need Enhanced Oversight

WASHINGTON D.C.— Today Rep. Ike Skelton (MO), Ranking Member on the House Armed Services Committee offered a motion to instruct conferees to accept a provision in the Senate version of the FY06 Defense Authorization Bill that requires the Director of National Intelligence to report on any clandestine detention facilities operated by the U.S. government.

“It is time to strengthen Congressional oversight of the U.S. government’s detention procedures,” commented **Ranking Member Skelton (MO)**. “Meaningful oversight must include proper scrutiny of all U.S. detention facilities, whether those facilities are located on U.S. or foreign soil.

“This measure in no way diminishes our commitment to combating terrorism. We are simply asking the Administration to provide a more complete accounting of U.S. detention operations and deliver the information Congress needs to fulfill its oversight responsibilities,” continued **Skelton**. “This measure has strong bipartisan support in the Senate and should receive the full support of the House as well.”